GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3206
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
TELEDENSITY IN INDIA
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the lowest teledensity in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve the teledensity in the country with special emphasis on the rural areas;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) & (d): The New Telecom Policy, 1999 envisages teledensity of 7 by the year 2005 and 15 by the year 2010. It also envisages to increase the Rural teledensity to 4 by the year 2010. Government proposes to increase the Annual Plan targets for providing New Telephone Connections every year, depending on demand. The contribution from Private Sector in Mobile as well as fixed telephone connections is also envisaged in the New Telecom Policy, 1999.

(e) Question does not arise.